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TS# 198519-71 13 April 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR CHAIRMAN, USIB

SUBJECT: Secretariat Summary of USIB Agenda for 15 April

Item 1 Watch Report

Draft by the Watch Committee to be circulated for USIB approval; Sponsor - General Cushman

NOTE: You may wish to announce that this will be Abbot Smith's last meeting as Chairman of BNE and that John Huizenga has been designated as his replacement.

Item 2 NIE on Soviet Policy in Asia
BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB
approval; Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

This regularly scheduled estimate was initiated by ONE, but has been tailored to comply with Admiral Anderson's interest in the military aspects of Sino-Soviet relations. The TOP SECRET Annex to this paper on "The Sino-Soviet Military Balance" will be published as a separate document and given a more limited distribution.

Originally, also at Admiral Anderson's request, the Annex contained a series of hypothetical military scenarios in the event of Sino-Soviet conflict. BNE was concerned with some of the implications of including this type of material in a formal NIE. Accordingly, following agreement with the USIB Representatives, it was decided to issue these "Scenarios" as a separate ONE Memorandum with a very limited distribution. This memorandum (see Tab under Item 2) is currently being coordinated informally with the USIB member agencies and BNE does not anticipate that it will be discussed at the Board meeting.

The Army Representative has joined the DIA Representative in reserving on Principal Observations E and H (pp. 3 and 5) and on Part II, Sections C and D (page 27). Their view, expressed at length in pages 27 to 29, differs with BNE concerning the likelihood of future Soviet military action against China. The objection is specifically to the "implied judgment" that such action is unlikely although the dissenting footnote does not estimate that such action is likely. In fact, the final paragraph of the dissent states that "we cannot estimate a future (Soviet)



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decision with any assurance." BNE's judgment concerning this issue is expressed in summary form in paragraph E (page 3). BNE believes that Navy may join the DIA and Army to the extent of dissenting specifically from the judgment expressed in the last sentence of paragraph E which suggests that, should the Soviets resort to military force, they would be more likely to mount limited cross-border operations than to engage in larger and riskier actions.

BNE is not aware of any other disagreements with this paper as it now stands.

Item 3 NIE on Colombia

BNE draft coordinated with USIB Representatives for USIB approval; Sponsor - Mr. Abbot Smith

This regularly scheduled estimate was initiated by CIA in anticipation of important and perhaps unsettling changes on the Colombian scene over the next several years. USIB approved the last estimate on Colombia in 1965. This draft is fully coordinated at the USIB Representative's level. The ARA desk people at State have indicated their desire for additional changes on an economic point; however BNE understands that INR intends to support the text in its present form. BNE does not anticipate any particular problems at USIB.

Executive Secretary/USIB

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